

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Expansion of the German News Agency, ADN

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

1. The Soviet-licensed General German News Service, Allgemeiner Deutscher Nachrichtendienst (ADN) has lately expanded its Article Contributions Department and its Russian Division and also established an Information Department. The roomy former German-Asiatic Bank building, which was assigned to the ADN by the SMA, is now too small; and the question whether to assign to ADN part of the building allocated to the DER (the former Mitropa), which is directly across the Mittelstrasse from the ADN, is being considered.
2. The expansion of the ADN is related to the suspension of the Berlin Service of the Soviet Information Office (SNO), in that ADN is to take over a part of the SNO's functions. Specifically, the ADN is to assume responsibility for both collection of information for the Russians and dissemination of Russian propaganda.
3. Since the ADN had a big deficit in the past year, the question has arisen whether it should be made good by the ADN subscribers or by other sources.
4. The new Information Department ("Informationsdienst") of the ADN operates behind locked doors. ADN editor Herzberg has been made Chief of it, and he is generally considered a reliable Communist. He also attends to the matter of ADN representation at the Berlin offices of the western Allies. Supporting him in the Information Department is the journalist Appelt, a son of the present Chief of the DDR Mission to Moscow.
5. The foreign representation of the ADN has been considerably reduced. Mrs. Kroner has been withdrawn from Bucharest, where she had been unsuccessful; Schreiber was withdrawn from Budapest and replaced by a native Communist, whose material is understood to be worthless. The only remaining foreign representative of the ADN is Kahane, formerly of Reuters, who still maintains his position in Prague. The desires of ADN to send representatives to Moscow and Warsaw have so far not been complied with by the competent authority of either city. In the case of Moscow, it was stated that the TASS service should suffice.
6. Schreiber has again taken over the Foreign Desk of the ADN.
7. The editor-in-chief of ADN is Georg Wilhelm Hansen, who is said to have been especially trained for assignments in Germany during his period of exile in the USSR in the Hitler era.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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8. The demands of the SED that everyone who is a resident of the western sectors of Berlin be discharged from official positions in the eastern sector have so far not affected the ADN. About 60 percent of the ADN's editorial staff, including Herzberg, lives in the western sectors of Berlin.

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